NEW FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER REGULATIONS FOR REFLECTIVE TAPE ON TRAILERS AND CAB MARKINGS

In an effort to enhance highway safety and motor carrier safety, the federal government recently adopted new regulations governing conspicuity retrofits and marking of commercial motor vehicles. Conspicuity markings have been required on all trailers built since December 1, 1993. Now any trailer with an overall width of 80 inches or more and a GVWR of 10,001 pounds or more which was built prior to December 1, 1993 must be retrofitted with reflective sheeting or reflex reflectors in federally mandated colors and patterns. Trailer owners have until June 1, 2001 to comply with the new conspicuity requirements. ALL carriers operating in interstate commerce must display their name and USDOT number on both sides of the power unit. In the past, carriers who had ICC numbers were authorized to mark their vehicles with the ICC number. Markings must be updated by July 3, 2002. For more information on federal motor carrier regulations, visit www.fmcsa.dot.gov on the Internet.